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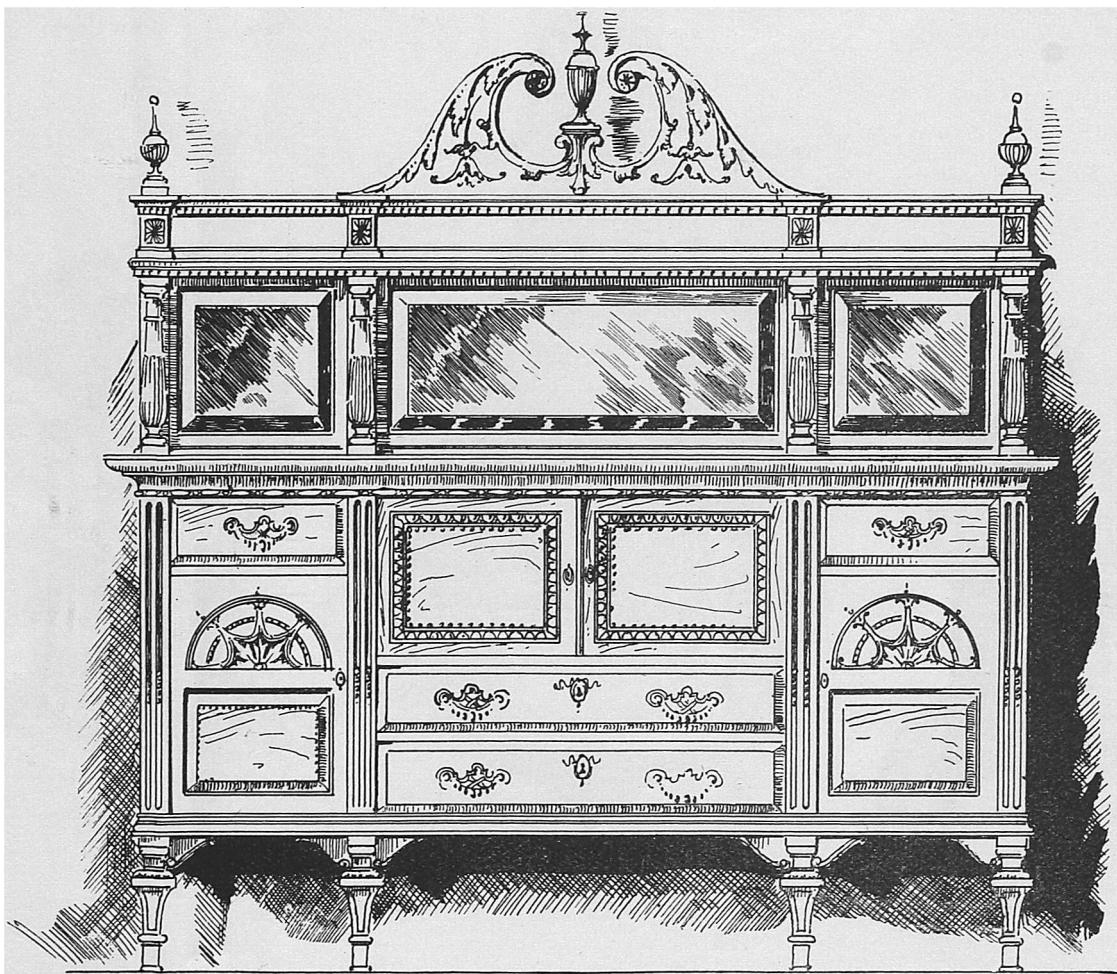
perspective of verdure with not a very happy effect. The walls are finished with linings of gray walnut of Auvergne and tapestry panels with Gobelin, eighteenth century. The ceiling is ornamented with large cornice painted in walnut with background of sky blue. At the angles the cornice is itself perforated for four medallions with lattice work of gold and wood, with vines running into the ceiling; very simple and very plain.

We could not, it is easy to understand, describe each room of this vast hotel. All the more is it impossible to give a view of the general arrangement. In resumé, besides the halls of reception, the ground floor comprises the bedroom of Mme. de Rothschild, the bath room, the toilet room, a boudoir, a cabinet of curiosities, a library. For all that the place has not been crowded. It is thus that attached to the dining room is a large pantry with high buffets, where are arranged certain plates, ceramic-œuvres of all epochs, a heater for service at the table, a silver room, etc. The library, on the other side, is not very large, and has also a choice cabinet. The sense of the comfortable, a character not too severe (which would not suit a lady) but at least serious, a luxury of fine furnishings, a

with art, a dominating and marked taste for one form or another. No. In this regard, there is nothing original to notice. No sentiment of newness, no trace of contemporary art. It is not here that we must wait to meet a suggestive piece of furniture signed with the name of a living artist, an enamel of a Thesmar, a glass of Galle, a cut by Falige. In return, much eclecticism, tact and finesse in choice of the hangings, neither too gay nor too sombre, the respect of law, with horror of ostentation; in short an indifference evident for all that is original in the decoration of an inferior, the familiar traits of byegone styles accepted without a murmur because it is the vogue to do so.

#### DECORATIVE NOTES.

**S**ILVER is to the Orient what gold is to the Occident, Dr. Edward Bedloe, the American Consul at Amoy, says. To the artist, the scholar and the collector it is the king of all the precious metals. Its popularity is not due to its cheapness.



MODERN COLONIAL SIDEBOARD. SHOULD BE EXECUTED IN DARK MAHOGANY, WITH POLISHED BRASS TRIMMINGS; BEVELED MIRRORS IN BACK.  
DESIGNED BY JAMES THOMSON.

temperate fancy, always in fear of criticism and the too gaudy, we notice here in all parts of this magnificent residence.

"In the entire hotel, the construction of which has cost more than \$400,000, without reckoning the ground," the architect told us "I have not spent \$250 for gilding." The first story, which has been arranged for the apartments of the daughter of the baroness, remains unoccupied since her marriage. We find nothing especial except the oratory, in the Arabian style, conceived for the ceremonies of the Jewish religion, and a long hall, on the walls of which are very simple cases full of brilliants and ancient gold work.

Behold then the objects of art that render the visit to the hotel Solomon de Rothschild particularly interesting. The wish of the baroness, who desired above all to preserve the value of the remarkable collections acquired by her husband has been vigorously followed. We do not find here one of the apartments the decoration of which betrays such or such pre-occupation

Jade, which rivals silver in public esteem, is much more expensive than gold. There may be another reason for the small use of gold as an ornament by the Chinese. In designation of rank and title, a gold button stands at nearly the bottom of the list.

Then, on the other hand, yellow golden is the imperial color, and none but those around the Son of Heaven are allowed to use it for wearing and other purposes. Silver jewelry and curios in China are universal. The poorest coolie's wife has usually argent bracelets and earrings. In curios and bric-a-brac the number of silver articles is legion. The greatest manufacturing center is Canton, but Amoy, Fuchau, Nankin and Pekin possess artists and guilds whose workmanship is famous over the Empire. Hours may profitably be spent in studying the designs of these Eastern artificers. One class of these consists of miniature reproductions of features of daily life, and is adapted for earrings, watch charms, pendants and bangle attachments.

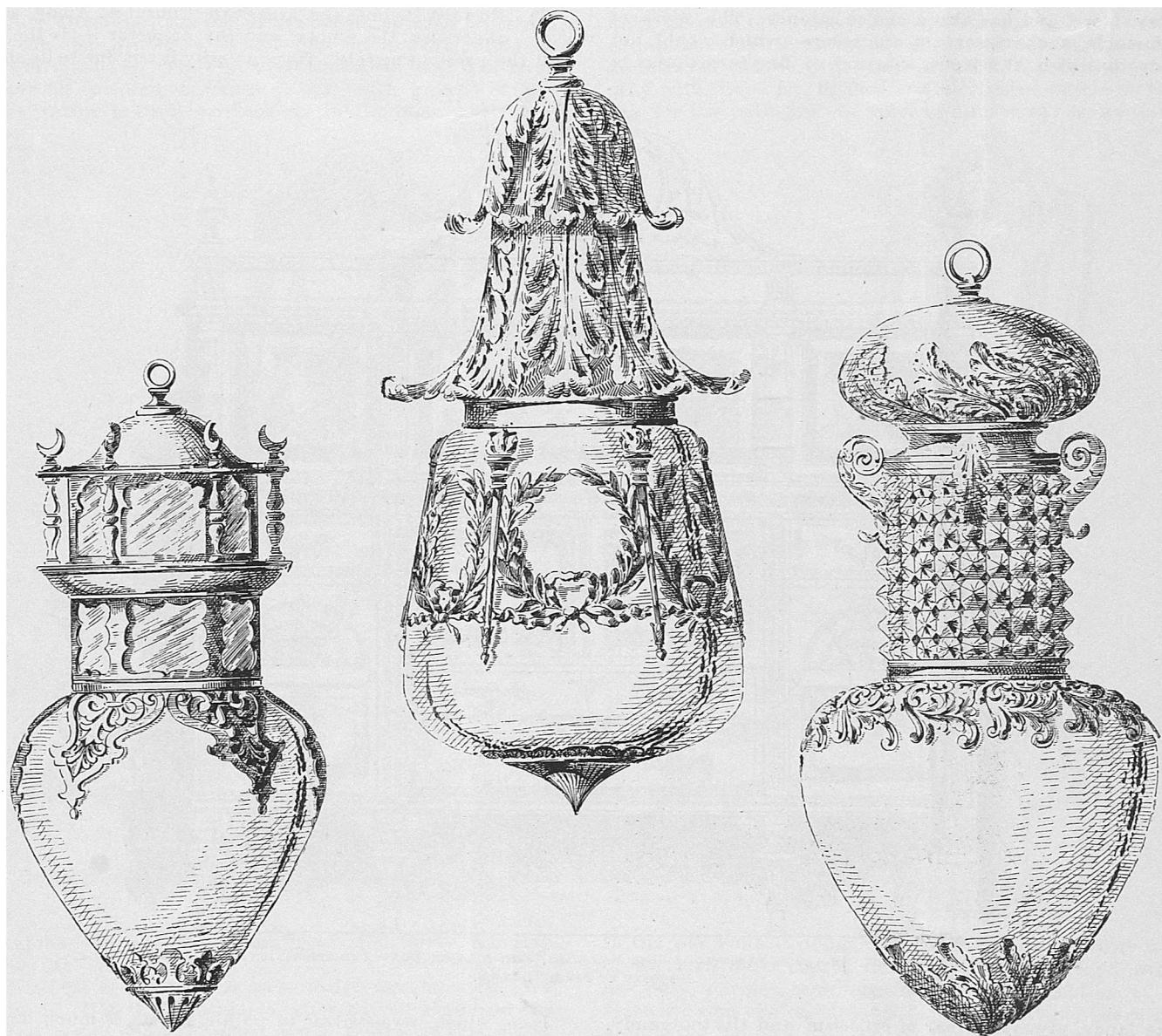
Among the more familiar objects are the pagoda sampan (or native boat), junk, the sedan chair, the small footed lady's shoe, the Goddess of Mercy, the Celestial poodle, the king of the fishes, the sitting Buddah, the dragon, the flying serpent, the begging bonze, the tiger, lion, horse, pig, buffalo, elephant, turtle, crocodile, monkey, cat and dog. The largest does not exceed two inches in length; from this size they diminish to dainty little objects no larger than a grain of corn. The work and finish are admirable, the features and hair of the human beings and animals, the scales of the fish and crocodiles, and the marking of the turtle's carapace being reproduced with the highest care and skill.

Another class consists of imitation cordage. The metal is solid, but the surface is so cleverly wrought out that at first sight each piece seems a rope, crocheted cord or braid. Some are as fine as sewing silk, while others are as thick as clothes lines.

BEDROOMS IN BRASS.

WE have heretofore referred to the beauty and desirability of brass beds, but should anyone prefer to furnish a bedroom entirely in brass goods, there are very beautiful designs in brass mounted dressing tables, brass tables with onyx leaf, jardinier stands, cabinets and pedestals, shaving stands, etc., decorated in all the ornamental forms of which brass is capable. The firm manufacturing such goods is the Gould-Mersereau Co., of 161 Canal street, New York, who also manufacture stools, hat racks, umbrella stands; all executed in brass, combining great elegance of form with the least possible amount of space.

The latest fancy in brass beds is the construction of unique designs, which are finished in silver plating, so that anyone who aspires to sleep in a silver bed need not postpone the luxury on



ELECTRIC LAMPS. DESIGNED BY AUGUST GEILS.

The silver is alloyed with a small percentage of copper to increase its hardness, and to allow the fine carving and graving impossible in the softer substance of pure silver. These silver cords are used for bracelets, anklets, necklaces, belts, sword hangings and horses' harness. Though stiff, they are not rigid, and can be bent in every direction. They may be made into knots and united without breaking. A third class comprises household ornaments, such as matchboxes, ash cups, joss sticks, bowls, sandalwood urns, plates for opium pipes, button boxes, and so on, without end. It is of the same general type, and about the same value as those made in America and Europe. A fourth class includes filagree work and tissues made from fine silver wire, and is marked by the highest skill and beauty. It is a favorite kind of work among the Chinese, and has been for centuries.

account of price, for by the use of silver-plated brass he can sleep as magnificently as an English Rajah or the Shah of Persia at the cost of but a few dollars over the amount necessary to buy an ordinary brass bed. The designs of all the goods manufactured by the firm are in the highest degree elegant and simple, over elaboration in ornament being carefully avoided.

The firm are doing an immense business and report that it is impossible for them at present to fill the orders they are receiving for their exceptionally fine line of metal goods.

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